

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN PHARMACY

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1931

DIVISION OF REGISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE AND REGISTRATION



PUBLICATION OF THIS DOCUMENT APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

## ANNUAL REPORT

APR 18 1932

Boston, Mass., November 30, 1931.

To William F. Craig, *Director of Registration*

Sir:—The Board of Registration in Pharmacy respectfully submits its annual report for the year ending November 30, 1931, the same being its forty-sixth report.

## EXAMINATION FOR REGISTRATION AS PHARMACISTS

Dates 1931	Number examined	Number registered
January 27 .....	54 .....	14
February 24 .....	54 .....	15
March 24 .....	58 .....	9
April 21 .....	49 .....	13
May 26 .....	62 .....	9
June 16 .....	59 .....	16
June 24 .....	65 .....	10
October 20 .....	46 .....	24
November 10 .....	62 .....	28
	<hr/> 509	<hr/> 138

## EXAMINATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS ASSISTANTS

	Number examined	Number registered
1930-31		
December 16 .....	58 .....	23
March 31 .....	53 .....	20
June 23 .....	68 .....	41
	<hr/> 179	<hr/> 84

REGISTERED PERSONS WHO HAD RECEIVED COLLEGE OF  
PHARMACY INSTRUCTION

	Registered pharmacists	Registered assistants
Total number of persons registered during year	138 .....	84
Number of graduates passing .....	61 .....	16
Number passing who attended college .....	17 .....	23
*Percentage of college trained persons passing	57% .....	46%

## REGISTERED BY INTERSTATE RECIPROCITY

	Number registered
Arizona .....	1
Louisiana .....	1
Maine .....	4
Michigan .....	1
New Hampshire .....	1
Rhode Island .....	4
Vermont .....	2
	<hr/> 14

\*When it was learned that several states would not grant reciprocal registration unless the candidate was a graduate, many persons withheld their applications until after their graduation thus lowering the percentage for this year.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Amount received for:

Permits .....	\$10,580.
Liquor certificates .....	4,940.
First examinations .....	1,606.
Re-examinations .....	1,347.
Reciprocity .....	170.
Duplicate certificates .....	70.
Certified statements .....	28.
Reimbursement for personal services .....	12.
Total income .....	<u>\$18,753.</u>

The above table shows the net amount of income. Fees which were refunded when permits and liquor certificates were refused have been deducted.

### EXPENDITURES

The following amounts were expended from appropriations for salaries and expenses of the members and agent:

	Appropriation	Amount expended
Salaries of the Board .....	\$4,300.00	\$4,300.00
Salary of the Agent .....	2,490.00	2,415.00
Travel of the Board and Agent .....	4,508.01*	4,234.38
Total .....	<u>\$11,298.01</u>	<u>\$10,949.38</u>

\*\$8.01 was brought forward from previous year's appropriation for bills of merchandise purchased in 1930.

Office expenses and salaries of clerks, amounting to \$6,130.19, were paid from the Budget of the Director of Registration.

### SUMMARY

#### *Meetings*

Number of meetings held for examinations .....	12
Number of meetings held for hearings and other business .....	33
Total number of meetings .....	<u>45</u>

#### *Hearings*

On violation of State laws following court convictions .....	23
On violations following Federal court convictions .....	4
On violations based upon Federal permit revocations .....	14
On complaints based upon investigations of the Agent .....	9
On applications for permits, liquor certificates and reciprocity .....	43
Total number of hearings .....	<u>93</u>

#### *Findings*

Drug store permits suspended or revoked .....	11
Personal registration certificates suspended .....	17
Third class license certificates revoked .....	3
Placed on probation .....	15
Placed on file .....	21
Cases dismissed .....	10
Permits refused (location not granted upon any later re-application) ..	4
Liquor certificates refused (not granted upon any later re-application) ...	25

(After a hearing, the Board may suspend the personal registration or store permit, or both; or may suspend either, or both, with probation following.)

The retail drug business in Massachusetts has suffered from the general depression this year. It has, no doubt, borne its share of the decrease in net profits which throughout the country has been from 20% to 25%, according to an estimate of the National Association of Retail Druggists. There has been a small percentage cut in wages. There were 67 new stores opened during the year and 61 closed, making a total at the writing of this report of 1,996. We believe that many of the new stores were opened by persons who were not successful in obtaining employment as clerks. Although stores for the most part are legally supervised, druggists have dispensed with anything more than the mere requirement of law.

The so-called "patent medicine store" has been an increasing problem. These stores cut prices in the lines they handle, making competition hard for the druggist who must employ skilled labor. Under statute this class can fill no prescriptions and sell only patent medicines, together with a certain number of household remedies. Although gradually increasing in number each year, there is a decrease in violations. They apparently are more careful to follow the law as to what they may sell. The matter of signs, however, is rather broad of interpretation and many such stores, although coming within the limits of law, seem to convey to the public, through their signs, that they are pharmacies.

The legislation relative to pharmacy which the Board maintains is most needed in Massachusetts is the requirement of college of pharmacy graduation. The State Pharmaceutical Association is also in favor of such legislation and will present a bill to the next Legislature. At the present time 38 states require college of Pharmacy training and 35 have in force provisions for college of pharmacy graduation before an examination can be taken. Massachusetts should raise its educational standard in this way for better protection to the public.

Chapter 112, section 24, of the General Laws provides that a candidate shall be examined upon payment of fee of \$5, and if he fails to pass may be re-examined after the expiration of three months upon payment of \$3. This re-examination costs no less than the first test, as the applicant must necessarily take the entire work over again, and the fee of \$3 does not cover the expense to the Commonwealth. If the fee for re-examination were advanced to \$5, the additional revenue would amount to about \$1,000 per year, and there would be no loss to the Commonwealth from this source. Recently, for example, when 62 persons were examined (which is about the largest number that can be handled) the total cost of holding the examination was \$297.72. The amount paid in fees from the candidates was \$214., making the per capita cost approximately \$4.80.

For many years the income received by the Board from various fees exceeded considerably the expense of administration. In recent years, due to increased work requiring additional clerks and other reasons, this has not been the case, and the increase in fee proposed would seem to be advisable.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM R. ACHESON, *President.*

CHARLES W. KING, *Secretary.*

LEON C. ELLIS.

JOHN R. SAWYER.

WILLIAM HARDIE.